

WHIDBEY AUDUBON SOCIETY Scholarship Recipients

2023

Wynter Arndt, a 2023 graduate of Coupeville High School, is majoring in Environmental Science at the University of Washington program in the San Juan Islands. A member of a 5th generation Whidbey farming family, Wynter has been a member, advocate, and volunteer in the Farm-To-School program throughout her high school years.

Sydney Carver, a 2023 graduate of South Whidbey High School, is majoring in Environmental Science and Biology at Western Washington State University, planning to do scientific research while there.

Madeline Racicot, a 2023 graduate of South Whidbey High School, is majoring in Environmental Engineering at Cal Poly. While living life-long on a farm, she has fully participated in high school environmental projects: bee pollination, building bee boxes, working the school farm, designing a recycling system, and successfully advocating for the environmental science class now offered at South Whidbey High.

2022

Ian Richards, a 2022 Oak Harbor High School graduate, is majoring in Environmental Science at Western Washington University for a career as an environmental analyst or park ranger. Through Boy Scouting, taking an extensive family road trip to over 170 National Parks across the U.S. at age 11, taking an environmental science class in high school, and broadly experiencing hiking and back-packing, Ian has been inspired to study Environmental Science to prepare for his career.

Samantha Zenger, a 2022 Oak Harbor High School graduate, is majoring in Environmental Science at Oregon State University. With a passion for the health of the environment, Samantha has been active in the Team Ambassador Program at Deception Pass State Park, doing citizen science research on micro-plastic's effect on sea life, human life, and the well-being of the environment. Samantha will share the results of her research with the public at the end of the summer as a featured speaker and article writer. She wants to work for Naval Air Station Whidbey Island as an Environmental Consultant and acquire a permanent position on the Deception Pass Park Foundation.

Logan Martin, a 2022 Coupeville High School graduate, is majoring in both Environmental Science and Industrial Construction at Central Washington University. His dream is to own and manage his own industrial Construction company, applying environmental principles to his work. Logan has strong community volunteering experience, and sport involvement.

2021

Drake Borden, a 2021 Coupeville High School graduate, is majoring in Environmental Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. During his high school years, Drake was actively involved in environmental activity: he planted 1,000 trees on 80 beautiful acres of Whidbey property; built and installed 100 bird boxes throughout the property; and helped plant an orchard of various fruit trees. This volunteer effort happened outside during Covid-19 pandemic years while Drake took online high school classes at home.

Catherine Lhamon, a 2021 Coupeville High School graduate, is majoring in Marine Science at Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida. With lifelong interest in, and involvement with marine activity since childhood, Marine Science suits her well.

2020

Joshua Pendleton, a 2020 Oak Harbor High School graduate, is majoring in Environmental Engineering and Computer Engineering, merging the skills to research and solve major environmental threats. While president of his high school Ecology Club, Josh initiated and led a program to eliminate school lunch-time food waste, eliminating the need for garbage cans in the lunchroom each day. Josh passionately volunteered for many practical eco-friendly projects while in high school. He will attend Gonzaga University in the Fall.

Arianna Marshall, a 2020 South Whidbey High School graduate, is majoring in the Global Studies Program associated with Long Island University (LIU), New York. Global Studies offer her a 3-year intensive, immersive internship study of climate change initiatives and other country major threats, while traveling and studying in Costa Rica, Spain, Italy, New Zealand, Australia and more. The last semester of her senior year will be spent at LIU to complete her Bachelor of Global Studies.

2019

Kelly Gruenwald, a 2019 Oak Harbor High School graduate, is majoring in Environmental Studies and Environmental Science at St. Louis University, Missouri. After graduating from the University, Kelly plans to work for two years in a Peace Corps program for environmental sustainability, collaborating with native peoples to implement programs. With high academic marks in Spanish, Environmental Science, Math, Marine Biology, and Oceanography courses, Kelly had found this environmental scholarship to be “a great fit,....that's me!” allowing her to merge a humanitarian passion with strong environmental interests.

Owen Boram, a 2019 South Whidbey High School/Everett Community College dual-graduate, is majoring in Oceanography at the University of Washington. While in high school, Owen completed 90 college credits through study at the Ocean Research College Academy, a program associated with Everett Community College. His research, conducted at the Academy, applied computer science skills and statistical analysis to calculate when river discharge enters the Snohomish River Estuary. Owen shared this research at regional and national conferences. A strong volunteer experience with Whidbey Watershed Stewards, and teaching at the Maxwellton

Outdoor Classroom, demonstrate Owen's local environmental community service. His passion for environmental issues and research is both observable and contagious.

2018

Jordan Wood-Pina, a 2018 Oak Harbor High School graduate, will attend Western Washington University majoring in Marine Biology. Sailing since age 6, Jordan initiated a high school sailing team, was j.v. and varsity sailing captain with strong leadership qualities and has been a lifelong outdoor enthusiast. A good math student, and strong scholar in science, marine biology, chemistry, and oceanography in high school, Jordan wishes to pursue a career with the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Aengus Dubendorf, a 2018 South Whidbey High School graduate, will attend Washington State University majoring in Natural Resource Policy/Pre- Law in the School of the Environment, with the intention of becoming an environmental lawyer. An accomplished leader in high school, which included environmental activities, Aengus also contributed significantly to his sister's post-grad thesis, offering his results when taking a college-level ocean acidification project, sampling and testing ocean water, while in high school.

Olivia Flack, a 2018 Oak Harbor High School graduate, will attend Western Washington University Honors Program in Environmental Policy. While in high school, Olivia was an environmentally impassioned volunteer working with elementary school students and their teachers, at Hillcrest Elementary, on bee pollinating and school veggie garden projects, for several years. Olivia also volunteered with the Washington Trails Association and cleaned-up Joseph Whidbey State Park with the Hillcrest Community.

2017

Alexxis Otto, Coupeville High School, is enrolled in the Environmental Studies and Outdoor Education as her Major/Minor programs at Prescott College, Arizona. While in high school, her environmental interests peaked while taking an extended back-packing course which included trail work and attending various environmental classes. Since, Alexxis has volunteered in trail building with Washington Trails Association, participated in numerous Whidbey/Camano Land Trust work parties, and has applied for summer work with the Forest Service.

Bree Daigneault, Coupeville High School, is enrolled in Marine Biology, the Honors in Distinguished Marine Scholars program, at Western Washington University with an emphasis on P.R./Communications. Her high school experiences included collecting and examining seawater samples for plankton and nutrient content, while training another volunteer to do the same, for the Penn Cove Shellfish Company. She participated in training and research in the study of harmful algae bloom at the San de Fuca marine lab. She wishes to become a PR. person for an environmental agency such as N.O.A.A.

Bailey Armos, South Whidbey High School, is enrolled in Environmental Science at the University of Washington. In high school, she worked at the Mount Rainier and Olympic

National Parks for two summers doing trail work. During her Senior high school year, she completed the extensive Beach Watchers training program, as well as training in Interpretive Environmental Education for South Whidbey/Central Whidbey State Parks. She has monitored seabirds in the Whidbey Pigeon Guillemot Study, and has taught about algae, working well with people of all ages. She plans to seek a graduate degree following her undergraduate studies.

2016

Madeline Remmen, South Whidbey High School, enrolled at Western Washington University to major in Environmental Policy. Ms. Remmen completed two years in the Running Start program at the Ocean Research College Academy (ORCA) at Everett Community College. She received an associate's degree in arts and science as well as her high school diploma. She participated in boat-based research in Possession Sound and was a founding member of the ORCA Conservation Club. After completing her college degree in two years, Ms. Remmen plans to attend law school to become an environmental lawyer.

Destiny Cleary, Coupeville High School, enrolled at Seattle Pacific University to major in computer sciences with a minor in environmental biology. She has completed two years in the Running Start program at Skagit Valley and Everett Community colleges and will receive an associate's degree as well as her high school diploma. She plans to use her computer science skills in developing and refining oceanographic research techniques.

Iona Rohan, South Whidbey High School, enrolled at University of Washington's College of Environment to major in environmental science. Ms. Rohan was a member of the high school Green Team and developed and implemented school-wide Earth Day programs for her last two years. One project was the adoption of a road for cleanup across from the school. She assisted at the 2016 Sound Waters conference, and she attended the Youth Earth Summit at Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in December 2015.

2015

Lyndsi Applegarth, Coupeville High School, enrolled at Washington State University, where she plans to take courses in biology and plant science. She is also interested in alternative energy, specifically wind energy. She planted trees on Earth Day and helped with trash cleanup on Orcas Island, which made her aware of the problems of trash in waterways. She participated in the Plant for the Planet Academy training session held in March 2015 at the Pacific Rim Institute for eight to 14-year olds. As the youngest adult "mentor," she helped teach participants how to plant a tree, how to give a climate presentation, and how to engage parents and adults on climate solutions.

2014

Caitlyn Connolly, Coupeville High School, will be attending Unity College in Maine, which she selected for its environmental education curriculum. As part of her 4H activities, she participated in beach and road cleanups. She plans to major in Captive Wildlife Care and

Education. Ms. Connolly is interested in environmental policy and helping the world by advocating, protecting, and overseeing its progression into a greener state.

Rachel Crowther, Oak Harbor High School, will be attending Washington State University to pursue her interest in biochemistry and biofuels. In high school she attended classes through the district's Home Connection program and has completed two years in the Running Start program at Skagit Valley Community College. She received an associate's degree in science as well as her high school diploma.

2013

Jennifer Madigan, Oak Harbor High School, enrolled at Washington State University, which she chose for its undergraduate program in genetics. She is interested in the genetics of different wheats and their water requirements. As a member of the National Honor Society, she organized twice-yearly beach cleanups at Ala Spit. Ms. Madigan plans to major in Genetics and Cell Biology, as well as Mathematics, to pursue a career in Genetic Engineering.

Carrin Romain-McErlane, South Whidbey High School, enrolled at Western Washington University in Environmental Studies and Technology Development. She served on the committee for the high school's Green Team and developed a project to evaluate the savings in replacing paper towels with hand dryers in school bathrooms. She is interested in the design of products that conserve resources, and in the use of graphic arts to communicate the importance of these products.

Wyatt Homola, Oak Harbor High School, enrolled at the University of Washington, which he chose for its Materials Science and Engineering program. He is interested in the development of alternative (renewable-based) polymers. As president of the high school's Ecology Club, he led the expansion of the recycling program and the implementation of food waste composting. Mr. Homola plans to work for a chemical firm.

2012

Harrison Price, South Whidbey High School, enrolled in the Environmental Studies program at Santa Clara University. His emphasis is on Sustainable Urban Development, and his goal is to earn an MBA in Sustainable Business Practices, the "Green" MBA. He had two years of experience as an intern in a building design business, with training at a Seattle company committed to renovating their properties to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified. Mr. Price wants to pursue a career in Sustainable Urban Development.

Nolan Exe, Coupeville High School, enrolled at Western Washington University to study environmental science at Huxley College. During his senior year, Mr. Exe volunteered at Pacific Rim Institute, which is restoring and researching central Whidbey Island's rare lowland prairie ecosystem. Mr. Exe collected and cleaned native plant seeds, planted seeds for propagation, and controlled invasive exotic plant species. He hopes to pursue a career in prairie restoration.

Maura McKole, Oak Harbor High School, enrolled at Western Washington University, where she is studying environmental journalism at Huxley College. As president of the high school's Ecology Club, she worked on recycling in the school, and coordinated activities with other environmental groups. During her last three high school years, she participated in Swan Lake Watershed Preservation Group work parties. Ms. McKole plans to pursue a career in journalism to educate and motivate others to conserve and protect the environment.

2011

Ben Saari, South Whidbey High School, enrolled at University of Washington. During high school, he designed and maintained a wildlife corridor in the Maxwellton Valley.

Tyler King, Coupeville High School, enrolled in Environmental Science and Resource Management at the University of Washington, with course work in Forests and Society, Wildlife in the Modern World, and Environmental Ethics. While in high school he was involved in restoration work at the Pacific Rim Institute. Mr. King is specializing in sustainable forest management.